REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Claims 1-54 are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 16, 18, 39 and 43-47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2002/0104019 to Chatani et al. (hereinafter, "Chatani"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Independent claim 16 recites a method comprising:

retrieving a console-based key stored on a game console;

retrieving a title-based key associated with a game title running on the game console; and

deriving one or more keys from the console-based key and the title-based key.

Meanwhile, Chatani describes a product distribution and payment system for limited use or otherwise restricted digital software products. A software product, such as a game or video, is made available to customers either through a detachable local storage medium (e.g. a DVD or CD-ROM disc) or over a network connection. The software product is a limited use product in that its use is either restricted to a number of plays or for a limited duration. Chatani also describes a two way, public/private key encryption system that is implemented to transmit the product and usage information between the server that is providing the product and the customer computer system. (*Chatani*, page 1, paragraph 6).

In one example, Chatani describes a method where the server and customer communicate through online means in order to decrypt the software product

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(Chatani, page 1, paragraph 6), as illustrated by Chatani's Fig. 2B reproduced below. Here, the server computer 222 provides a software product (or "title") requested by the user 220. To ensure secure distribution of the product over the network, the exchange between the server and the user incorporates a multilayered public key encryption (PKCS) to enable decryption of the software product content stored on the storage media (e.g. DVD), which the user has placed in the console. (Chatani, page 4, paragraph 32).

Next, a first pair of keys ("User A" and "User B") 226 is created by the server for facilitation of the decryption process. (Chatani, page 4, paragraphs 32-33). A second pair of keys ("Console A" 228 and Console B" 229) is also created. After certain keys are passed between the server and user (as illustrated in Fig. 2B) in order to develop secure communications, the user transmits the title ID of the software the user wishes to purchase to the server. The server then retrieves title private key ("Title B") 232 for the software product specified by the user, and encrypts and transmits this key to the user. The user then decrypts the software title using the title public key (Title A). (Chatani, page 4, paragraph 33). After decryption, the user transmits purchase information to the server, and the software product will function on user's console for a limited period or for a limited number of uses. (Chatani, page 4, paragraph 34). This process is depicted in Chatani's Fig. 2B:

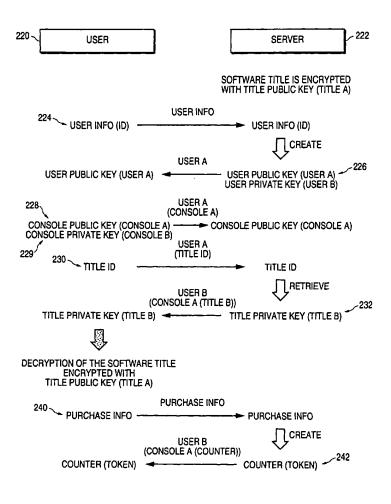


FIG.2B

Chatani does not disclose "retrieving a title-based key associated with a game title running on the game console," as required by Applicant's claim 16. Chatani also fails to disclose "deriving one or more keys from the console-based key and the title-based key," also required by claim 16.

The Office, however, cites Chatani as disclosing all elements of Applicant's claim 16. For support, the Office tells Applicant to "see paragraphs 0029, 0033-0036, 0051 [and] Figs. 2B, 3A" of Chatani. (Office Action of 7/12/05, page 2).

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Applicant again respectfully submits, however, that Chatani does not disclose "retrieving a title-based key associated with a game title running on the game console." (emphasis added). In Chatani, the only console present is controlled by the user. While the user may have a software product, such as a CD-ROM, in the console, the user does not have permission to play the title until the server gives the user an appropriate key with which to decrypt the product. As discussed above and illustrated in Fig. 2B, part of this method described by Chatani includes the server retrieving the title private key (Title B) in response to the user's request, as Chatani states in the following passage cited by the Office:

> The user 220 next transmits the title ID to the server 222 for the software product to be purchased. The server 222 retrieves title private key (Title B) 232 for the specified software product.

The user then decrypts the encrypted software title using the title public key (Title A).

(Chatani, page 4, paragraph 33). Therefore, as supported by the above passage cited by the Office, the retrieval of the title private key occurs before the user is granted access to play the software product located in the game console. Furthermore, Applicant notes that Chatani does not disclose the "retrieval" of any other title key. Therefore, Chatani does not disclose "retrieving a title-based key associated with a game title running on the game console," as required by Applicant's claim 16. Applicant notes that this is a logical result, as the purpose of Chatani is to use secure communications in order to grant the user access to a specified software product. As the reference does not disclose all of the elements

Applicant respectfully requests that the §102 rejection be withdrawn and claim 16 be forwarded onto issuance.

Additionally Applicant respectfully submits that Chatani does not disclose

of Applicant's claim, it cannot be said to anticipate. For at least this reason,

Additionally, Applicant respectfully submits that Chatani does not disclose "deriving one or more keys from the console-based key and the title-based key." As illustrated above in Fig. 2B, after the title private key is retrieved by the server and transmitted to the user, the user decrypts the software title. After doing so, the user transmits purchasing information to the server. The server may then correspondingly create a usage counter for determining the amount of uses or the length of time that the user is entitled to use the software title for. (*Chatani*, page 4, paragraph 34). Nowhere does Chatani disclose "deriving one or more keys from the console-based key and the title-based key." To the contrary, once the decryption has occurred, no more keys need be derived at all as the purpose of Chatani has already been achieved.

Furthermore, if any further communications occur between the server and the user, the original public/private key pair ("User A" and "User B") is used, or a new public/private key pair is created. (*Chatani*, page 4, paragraph 35). This also supports the conclusion that neither the later-created console key pair ("Console A" and "Console B"), nor the title key pair ("Title A" and "Title B") are used for "deriving one or more keys."

As Chatani does not disclose this feature, it cannot be said to anticipate. For at least this additional reason, Applicant respectfully requests that the §102 rejection be withdrawn and claim 16 be forwarded onto issuance.

Dependent claim 18 depends from claim 16 and is allowable by virtue of this dependency. Moreover, this claims recites features that, when taken together with those of claim 16, define a method not disclosed by Chatani.

Independent claim 39 recites a computer-readable medium for a game console comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed, direct the game console to:

obtain a first key stored in memory of the game console and a second key associated with a game title running on the game console; and

derive one or more keys from the first and second keys.

For the reasons given above with respect to claim 16, Chatani does not disclose this device. Namely, the cited reference does not disclose obtaining a "second key associated with a game title running on the game console," nor does it disclose deriving "one or more keys from the first and second keys."

Applicant therefore respectfully requests allowance of claim 39 for at least the same reasons described above with respect to claim 16.

Independent claim 43 recites a game console, comprising:

a memory to store a first key;

a game title configured to execute on the game console, the game title having an associated second key; and

a processor coupled to the memory, the processor being configured to derive at least one cryptographic keys from the first and second keys.

For the reasons given above with respect to claim 16, Chatani does not disclose this device. Namely, the cited reference does not disclose "a processor

coupled to the memory, the processor being configured to derive at least one cryptographic keys from the first and second keys." Again, when the title private key has been retrieved and the software decrypted by the user, there is no need for the Chatani method to derive any more keys.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests allowance of claim 43 for at least the same reasons described above with respect to claim 16.

Dependent claims 44-47 depend from claim 43 and are allowable by virtue of this dependency. Moreover, these claims recite features that, when taken together with those of claim 43, define game consoles not disclosed by Chatani.

For Example, **dependent claim 44** recites "a game console as recited in claim 43, wherein the memory comprises a read only memory." Also, **dependent claim 45** recites "a game console as recited in claim 43, wherein the processor is configured to compute a hash function of the first and second keys."

However, in making out a rejection of claims 44 and 45, the Office merely made the following statement:

Regarding claims 43-45, Chatani et al. disclose a memory to store a first key (see paragraphs 0016, 0024, 0032), a game title configured to execute on the game console, having an associated second key (see paragraph 0029), and a processor coupled to the memory, configured to derive at least one cryptographic key from the first and second key (see paragraphs 0016, 0032-0036; figures 2B, 3A).

(Office Action of 7/12/05, page 2). Applicant respectfully submits that the Office has not indicated anywhere in this analysis where Chatani discloses the added features of claims 44 and 45. As Chatani has not been shown to disclose all of the elements of Applicant's claims, Applicant respectfully requests that the §102

rejections be withdrawn. Claims 44 and 45 are allowable for at least this additional reason.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 4-6, 8-13, 15, 19-26 and 48-51 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,152,824 to Rothschild et al. (hereinafter, "Rothschild") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,586,257 to Perlman.

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chatani in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,006,266 to Murphy Jr. et al. (hereinafter "Murphy").

Claims 2, 3, 7, 14, 27, 30-38, 49 and 52-54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rothschild in view of Perlman in further view of Chatani.

Claims 40-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rothschild in view of Perlman in further view of U.S Patent Pub. No. 2002/0071557 to Nguyen.

Claim 28 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rothschild in view of Perlman and Chatani in further view of Murphy.

Claim 29 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rothschild in view of Perlman and Chatani in further view of Nguyen.

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Rothschild in view of Perlman

Claims 1, 4-6, 8-13, 15, 19-26 and 48-51 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rothschild in view of Perlman. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Independent claim 1 recites a method comprising:

deriving a secret that is unique to a game console running a particular game title; and

establishing a secure communication link between multiple game consoles over a local area network using the secret.

In making out a rejection of claim 1, the Office states that Rothschild discloses all of the elements of Applicant's claim, except for the "local area network." The Office, however, cites Perlman for this element, and states that "it was well known in the art at the time of the invention that multiple gaming consoles that communicate over a network such as the internet can communicate equally as well over a local are network." (Office Action of July 12, 2005, pages 3-4).

Rothschild describes an online gaming system and process arranged in a client/server online gaming architecture. In Rothschild, the client computers are configured to run a client gaming program, and the server computers are coupled to the client computers via a network. The server computers run multiple server programs, including a master control program ("MCP") that governs access of the server programs to the online gaming architecture. Server computers also run a matchmaker program ("MM") that supports rendezvous services for connecting players. (*Rothschild*, abstract).

Perlman describes a system for linking a first computer to a second computer. The system also includes a server that is coupled to the network for receiving a request for direct linking from both computers. The two computers are then matched via matching criteria and a communication link between the computers is established. (*Perlman*, abstract).

Neither reference discloses "deriving a secret that is unique to a game console running a particular game title" as recited in Applicant's claim 1.

For support that Rothschild discloses such an element, the Office directs Applicant's attention to the following passage:

In one embodiment, a networked computer on-line gaming system is arranged in a client/server online gaming architecture and utilized to run gaming programs. The Client computers are configured to run a gaming Client program.

The Server computers are coupled to the Client computers via a network. The Server computers run Server programs including a Master Control Program (MCP) that governs access of the server programs to the online gaming architecture, a Servorum program (SV) for creating instances of a server program, a Matchmaker program (MM) that supports rendezvous services, a Game Instances Class Server program (GICS) that enables features of the online gaming architecture to be Utilized, and Game Upper Level Protocol server program (GULP) associated with said GICS.

(Rothschild, Col. 2, lines 1-14). This passage, however, only describes the server/client relationship discussed above, and in particular discusses how a server program runs an MCP in order to govern access to the online gaming architecture. This passage does not mention how the MCP governs such access, nor what is involved for a client computer to gain such access. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the above passage does not mention, nor teach or suggest,

"deriving a secret that is unique to a game console running a particular game title."

If the Examiner intends to maintain the rejection, Applicant requests that the Examiner distinctly point out how Rothschild teaches such a claim.

Because not all of the elements of Applicant's claim 1 have been addressed, Applicant respectfully submits that the Office has not presented a *prima facie* case of obviousness. As such, the § 103 rejection should be withdrawn and claim 1 should be forwarded onto issuance.

Dependent claims 4 and 5 depend from claim 1 and are allowable by virtue of this dependency. Moreover, these claims recite features that, when taken together with those of claim 1, define methods not taught or suggested by Rothschild and Perlman.

Independent claim 6 recites a method comprising:

generating at least one key that is secret to an authentic gaming system running an authentic game title;

discovering whether another gaming system on a common local area network is hosting the game title; and

establishing a secure communication link between multiple gaming systems to facilitate multi-system play of the game title over the local area network.

In making out a rejection of claim 6, the Office cites Rothschild as teaching the "discovering" element of Applicant's claim. (Office Action of 7/12/05, page 4). This cited portion of Rothschild, however, teaches a client computer program (or "gizmo") discovering the net address of a server MCP and attempting to attach to the MCP. (Rothschild, col. 4, lines 6-18). Rothschild defines server computers earlier in the specification. According to Rothschild, "[s]ervers are typically

computers which are not attended by any person but which are accessible via the net for the interchange of data messages to and from any client." (*Rothschild*, col. 3, lines 58-61). As such, Rothschild does not teach or suggest a "gaming system . . . hosting the game title," but rather teaches a client computer program connecting to an unmanned server. A client computer program attempting to access a server MCP does not constitute "discovering whether another *gaming system* on a common local area network is hosting the game title," as an unmanned server is not a gaming system. As neither Rothschild nor Perlman teach this element of Applicant's claim, the § 103 rejection should be withdrawn and claim 1 should be forwarded onto issuance.

Similarly, the Office cites Rothschild as teaching the "establishing" portion of Applicant's claim. The portion of Rothschild cited by the Office describes a client computer program authenticating itself with an MCP before the client computer program is able to use any of the services provided by the MCP. Again, this authentication process involves a private key exchange via a first public key exchange. After the key exchange, a secure link between the client computer program and the server MCP can be established. (*Rothschild*, col. 4, line 51- col. 5, line 24).

Again, however, an MCP is a program being run by an unmanned server, and not by a "gaming system." Therefore, the cited passage of Rothschild does not teach "establishing a secure communication link between multiple gaming systems to facilitate multi-system play of the game title over the local area network." (emphasis added). Instead, it teaches establishing a connection between a client computer program and an unmanned server. For at least this

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additional reason, the § 103 rejection should be withdrawn and claim 6 should be forwarded onto issuance.

Dependent claims 8-12 depend from claim 6 and are allowable by virtue of this dependency. Moreover, these claims recite features that, when taken together with those of claim 6, define methods not taught or suggested by Rothschild and Perlman.

Independent claim 13 recites a method comprising:

broadcasting, from a client game console over a local area network, a request to join in playing a game title in a network gaming session being hosted by a host game console, the request containing a secret that is unique to the client game console running the game title; and

broadcasting, from the host game console over the local area network, a reply to the request, the reply containing information that can be used to establish a secure communication link.

For the reasons given above with respect to claims 1 and 6, Rothschild and Perlman do not teach or suggest this method. Namely, Rothschild and Perlman do not teach or suggest "broadcasting, from a client game console over a local area network, a request to join in playing a game title in a network gaming session being hosted by a host game console." Instead, Rothschild again teaches a client computer program attempting to connect to an unmanned server MCP. An unmanned server is not a game console, as discussed above in regards to claim 6, and therefore does not teach or suggest this element of Applicant's claim. Furthermore, neither Rothschild nor Perlman teach or suggest "the request

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containing a secret that is unique to the client game console running the game title" for at least the same reasons as discussed in regards to claim 1.

In rejecting claim 13, however, the Office cites a portion of Rothschild that is not cited in the rejection of claim 1, and therefore the rejection merits additional Applicant respectfully submits that the additional portion of Rothschild, nor Rothschild in its entirety, teaches or suggests Applicant's claim 13. In particular, the reference does not teach "a secret that is unique to the client game console running the game title." Again, Rothschild teaches a client computer program attaching to an MCP, and authenticating itself with the MCP via a public/private key exchange. If the client computer program has never previously authenticated itself with the MCP, then the client must "obtain a private key (PK) for the strong private key encryption method supported by that particular MCP." (Rothschild, col. 4, lines 4-59). Nowhere, however, does Rothschild teach or suggest using a "secret that is unique to the client game console," as recited in Applicant's claim 13. (emphasis added). Instead, in Rothschild, the client computer program requests a key from the server MCP, a key that is not unique to the client computer program but rather is a PK that is "supported by that particular MCP." Therefore, the key is not related at all to the client game console. If anything, the key is related to the server MCP and not the client, and thus is exactly opposite of the element recited in Applicant's claim. As such, Rothschild teaches away from claim 13. For at least this additional reason, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claim 13.

Dependent claim 15 depends from claim 13 and is allowable by virtue of this dependency. Moreover, this claim recites features that, when taken together

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with those of claim 13, define a method not taught or suggested by Rothschild and Perlman.

Independent claim 19 recites a method comprising:

creating a request to join in playing a game title being hosted by a host game console on the local area network;

broadcasting the request over the local area network;

receiving a reply from the host game console, the reply containing one or more session keys; and

using the session keys from the reply to facilitate future secure communication with the host game console.

For the reasons given above with respect to claims 6 and 13, Rothschild and Perlman do not teach or suggest this method. Namely, Rothschild and Perlman do not teach or suggest "creating a request to join in playing a game title being hosted by a host game console," as a server MCP does not constitute a host game console.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests allowance of claim 19.

Dependent claims 21-24 depend from claim 19 and are allowable by virtue of this dependency. Moreover, these claims recite features that, when taken together with those of claim 19, define methods not taught or suggested by Rothschild and Perlman.

Independent claim 25 recites a method comprising:

forming an initial packet that contains first data used to derive a cryptographic key;

computing a first hash digest of the initial packet;

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sending the initial packet and the first hash digest to another game console on the local area network that is playing the same game title;

receiving a reply packet from the other game console, the reply packet including a second hash digest and second data;

authenticating the reply packet using the second hash digest; and

deriving one or more security association keys from the first and second data, the security association keys being used to secure communication between the multiple consoles.

For the reasons given above with respect to claims 6 and 13, Rothschild and Perlman do not teach or suggest this method. Namely, Rothschild and Perlman do not teach or suggest "multiple consoles." For at least this reason, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claim 25.

Furthermore, Rothschild and Perlman do not teach or suggest "computing a first hash digest," as recited in claim 25. For teaching such an element, the Office cites the following passage of Rothschild:

If the Gizmo already has a PK (for that particular MCP) that was obtained during some previous authentication, then, referring to FIG. 7, the Gizmo attempts to use that PK for authentication (steps 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45) and if successful (step 46) it uses a new PK obtained from the MCP (in step 45) for use during the present session. If this attempt fails (a likely reason being that PK is either stale or forgotten by the said MCP) then the Gizmo falls back upon public key cryptographic exchange with the MCP to obtain a new PK (steps 47, 48). As previously suggested a public key cryptographic exchange (steps 47, 48) is more computationally intense and so takes much longer than a strong private encryption key exchange using a PK. The same PK is used for encryption/decryption for traffic passing both ways, so long as the PK remains in effect. As a result of the steps 40 through 48, the Gizmo and MCP have a secure mutual link (steps 49, 50).

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(Rothschild, col. 5, lines 8-24). Applicant respectfully submits, however, the that the preceding passage merely teaches the how the client computer program accesses a server MCP. According to the passage, the client may be able to use a previously-obtained PK if the client has previously accessed the MCP, and if the MCP remembers the client and the client's PK. Otherwise, the client may need to go through the entire public/private key exchange again, as discussed above. The passage does not, however, mention the term "hash," nor suggest that one may "compute a hash digest of an initial packet." As such, Rothschild and Perlman have not been shown to teach all of the elements of Applicant's claim 25. For at least this additional reason, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claim 25.

Dependent claim 26 depends from claim 25 and is allowable by virtue of this dependency. Moreover, this claim recites features that, when taken together with those of claim 25, define a method not taught or suggested by Rothschild and Perlman.

Independent claim 48 recites a game console, comprising:

a memory; and

a processor coupled to the memory and configured to generate at least one key that is secret to the game console when running an authentic game title, the processor being further configured to discover, using the key, a host game console on a common local area network that is hosting the game title and to establish a secure communication link with the host game console over the local area network.

For the reasons given above with respect to claims 6 and 13, Rothschild and Perlman do not teach or suggest this method. Namely, Rothschild and Perlman do

not teach or suggest "at least one key that is secret to the game console when running an authentic game title," nor do they teach both "a game console" and a "host game console."

Applicant therefore respectfully requests allowance of claim 48.

Dependent claims 50-51 depend from claim 48 and are allowable by virtue of this dependency. Moreover, these claims recite features that, when taken together with those of claim 48, define game consoles not taught or suggested by Rothschild and Perlman.

Chatani in view of Murphy

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chatani in view of Murphy. In making out a rejection of claim 17, the Office states that the rejection of base claim 16 has been shown to be anticipated by Chatani, and that Murphy teaches the additional element present in claim 17. (Office Action of 7/12/05, page 9). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

As discussed above, Chatani describes a product distribution and payment system for limited use or otherwise restricted digital software products. (*Chatani*, page 1, paragraph 6). Murphy, meanwhile, describes a system of multiplexing clients and applications among multiple servers. One server is a master server owning a well-known port, and the other servers are slave servers supporting established web browser-to-application state sessions. (*Murphy*, abstract).

Dependent claim 17 recites "a method as recited in claim 16, wherein the deriving comprises computing a hashing function on a concatenation of the console-based key and the title-based key." As discussed above, independent

claim 16 recites a method comprising "retrieving a title-based key associated with a game title running on the game console."

Neither Chatani nor Murphy teach or suggest such an element. In Chatani, the purpose of the key exchange is to allow the user to decrypt the software that may be on the user's computer or console. Therefore, there is no need to "retriev[e] a title-based key associated with a game title running on the game console." This is because when the game title is running, the purpose of Chatani has been completed, and there is no longer a need for a user to receive any sort of key. Thus, Chatani effectively teaches away from the claimed element. Furthermore, Murphy is not cited by the Office as teaching such an element, and does not add anything of substance to the rejection. Therefore, for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 16, Chatani and Murphy do not teach or suggest claim 17.

Moreover, claim 17 recites features that, when taken together with those of claim 16, define a method not taught or suggested by Chatani and Murphy. Applicant therefore respectfully requests allowance of claim 17.

Rothschild in view of Perlman in further view of Chatani

Claims 2, 3, 7, 14, 27, 30-38, 49 and 52-54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rothschild in view of Perlman in further view of Chatani. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Dependent claim 2 recites a "method as recited in claim 1, wherein the deriving comprises deriving the secret from data stored in the game console and data associated with the particular game title." Dependent claim 3 recites a "method as recited in claim 1, wherein the deriving comprises retrieving a

console-based key from the game console and a title-based key associated with the particular game title; and deriving the secret from the console-based key and the title-based key."

In making out a rejection of claims 2 and 3, the Office relies upon the earlier rejection of base claim 1, where the Office rejected the claim as unpatentable over Rothschild in view of Perlman. The Office then cites Chatani as teaching the additional elements of dependent claims 2 and 3. (Office Action of 7/12/05, page 10).

As shown above, Applicant respectfully submits that Rothschild and Perlman do not teach or suggest independent claim 1. Namely, the references do not teach "deriving a secret that is unique to a game console running a particular game title." As Chatani does not teach or suggest such an element, nor is it cited for doing so, the reference does not add anything of substance to the rejection of the base claim. Therefore, dependent claims 2 and 3 are allowable by virtue of this dependency.

Moreover, these claims recite features that, when taken together with those of claim 1, define methods not taught or suggested by Rothschild, Perlman and Chatani. The Examiner cites Chatani as teaching the additional elements of claims 2 and 3, as listed above. Applicant, however, respectfully submits that Chatani does not disclose "deriving the secret from data stored in the game console and data associated with the particular game title," as recited in Applicant's claim 2, nor "deriving the secret from the console-based key and the title-based key," as recited in Applicant's claim 3.

As illustrated above in Fig. 2B of Chatani, after the title private key is retrieved by the server and transmitted to the user, the user decrypts the software

title. After doing so, the user transmits purchasing information to the server. The server may then correspondingly create a usage counter for determining the amount of uses or the length of time that the user is entitled to use the software title for. (*Chatani*, page 4, paragraph 34). Nowhere does Chatani disclose "deriving the secret" from the title private key. To the contrary, once the decryption has occurred, no more keys need be derived at all as the purpose of Chatani has already been achieved.

Furthermore, if any further communications occur between the server and the user, the original public/private key pair ("User A" and "User B") is used, or a new public/private key pair is created. (*Chatani*, page 4, paragraph 35). This also supports the conclusion that neither the later-created console key pair ("Console A" and "Console B"), nor the title key pair ("Title A" and "Title B") are used for "deriving one or more keys."

For at least this additional reason, claims 2 and 3 are allowable.

Dependent claim 7 recites a "method as recited in claim 6, wherein the generating comprises retrieving a console-based key from the gaming system and a title-based key associated with the game title; and deriving the key from the console-based key and the title-based key."

In making out a rejection of claim 7, the Office relies upon the earlier rejection of base claim 6, where the Office rejected the claim as unpatentable over Rothschild in view of Perlman. The Office then cites Chatani as teaching the additional elements of dependent claim 7. (Office Action of 7/12/05, page 10).

As shown above, Applicant respectfully submits that Rothschild and Perlman do not teach or suggest independent claim 6. Namely, the references do not teach "discovering whether another gaming system on a common local area

network is hosting the game title," nor "establishing a secure communication link between multiple gaming systems to facilitate multi-system play of the game title over the local area network."

As Chatani does not teach or suggest such an element, nor is it cited for doing so, the reference does not add anything of substance to the rejection of the base claim. Therefore, dependent claim 7 is allowable by virtue of this dependency. Moreover, this claim recites features that, when taken together with those of claim 6, define a method not taught or suggested by Rothschild, Perlman and Chatani.

For example, claim 7 is also allowable for the same reasons as discussed above in regards to claims 2 and 3. Namely, Chatani does not teach "deriving the key from the console-based key and the title-based key." For at least this additional reason, claim 7 is allowable.

Dependent claim 14 recites a "method as recited in claim 13, further comprising deriving the secret from data stored in the client game console and data associated with the game title."

In making out a rejection of claim 14, the Office relies upon the earlier rejection of base claim 13, where the Office rejected the claim as unpatentable over Rothschild in view of Perlman. The Office then cites Chatani as teaching the additional elements of dependent claim 14. (Office Action of 7/12/05, page 10).

As shown above, Applicant respectfully submits that Rothschild and Perlman do not teach or suggest independent claim 13. Namely, the references do not teach "broadcasting, from a client game console over a local area network, a request to join in playing a game title in a network gaming session being hosted by

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a host game console," nor "a secret that is unique to the client game console running the game title."

As Chatani does not teach or suggest such an element, nor is it cited for doing so, the reference does not add anything of substance to the rejection of the base claim. Therefore, dependent claim 14 is allowable by virtue of this dependency. Moreover, this claim recites features that, when taken together with those of claim 13, define a method not taught or suggested by Rothschild, Perlman and Chatani.

For example, claim 14 is also allowable for the same reasons as discussed above in regards to claims 2 and 3. Namely, Chatani does not teach "deriving the secret from data stored in the client game console and data associated with the game title." For at least this additional reason, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claim 14.

Independent claim 27 recites a method comprising:

retrieving a console-based key from a first game console and a title-based key associated with a game title running on the first game console;

deriving at least one cryptographic key from the consolebased key and the title-based key;

creating, at a first console, a request to join in playing the game title being hosted by a second game console on the local area network;

cryptographically encoding the request using the cryptographic key;

broadcasting the request over the local area network;

cryptographically decoding the request, at the second game console, using the cryptographic key;

generating, at the second game console, a reply that contains at least one session key;

cryptographically encoding the reply using the cryptographic key;

broadcasting the reply over the local area network;

cryptographically decoding the reply, at the first game console, using the cryptographic key;

exchanging packets between the first and second game consoles, the packets being protected using the session key and containing data used to derive at least one security association key; and

establishing a secure communication link between the first and second game consoles using the security association keys to facilitate secure multi-console play of the game title.

In making out a rejection of claim 27, the Office cites Rothschild for many of the elements, but states that Rothschild does "not disclose keys for both the gaming system and the title, and deriving the key from the two." Nevertheless, the Office cites Chatani as teaching such an element. (*Office Action of 7/12/05*, page 11). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

For the reasons given above with respect to claims 6 and 13, Rothschild, Perlman and Chatani do not teach or suggest this method. Namely, they do not teach or suggest "exchanging packets between the first and second game consoles," nor "establishing a secure communication link between the first and second game consoles," as a server MCP does not constitute a host game console.

Furthermore, Chatani is not cited for teaching such an element, nor does it teach such an element, and therefore does not add anything of substance to the rejection.

Furthermore, Chatani does not teach "deriving at least one cryptographic key from the console-based key and the title-based key," as submitted by the Office. Therefore, claim 27 is additionally allowable for at least the reasons discussed above in regards to claims 2 and 3.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests allowance of claim 27.

Dependent claim 32 depends from claim 27 and is allowable by virtue of this dependency. Moreover, this claim recites features that, when taken together with those of claim 27, define an apparatus not taught or suggested by Rothschild, Perlman and Chatani.

Dependent claim 30 recites a "method as recited in claim 27, wherein the exchanging comprises . . . computing a hash digest of the packet." In making out a rejection of claim 30, the Office relies upon the rejection of base claim 27 and Rothschild for teaching the additional elements of claim 30.

As shown above, however, Rothschild, Perlman and Chatani do not disclose independent claim 27. Claim 30, therefore, is allowable by virtue of this dependency. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that Rothschild does not teach "computing a hash digest of the packet," as discussed above in regards to claim 25. Therefore, claim 30 is additionally allowable for at least the same reasons given above with respect to claim 25.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests allowance of claim 30.

Independent claim 33 recites a method comprising:

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retrieving a console-based key from a first game console and a title-based key associated with a game title running on the first game console;

deriving at least one cryptographic key from the console-

deriving at least one cryptographic key from the consolebased key and the title-based key;

creating a request to join in playing the game title being hosted by another game console on the local area network;

encoding the request using the cryptographic key;

broadcasting the request over the local area network;

receiving a reply from a host game console, the reply containing at least one session key;

exchanging packets with the host game console, the packets being protected using the session key and containing data used to derive at least one security association key; and

establishing a secure communication link with the host game console using the security association key.

In making out a rejection of claim 33, the Office cites Rothschild for many of the elements, but states that Rothschild does "not disclose keys for both the gaming system and the title, and deriving the key from the two." Nevertheless, the Office cites Chatani as teaching such an element. (*Office Action of 7/12/05*, page 13). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

For the reasons given above with respect to claims 6 and 13, Rothschild, Perlman and Chatani do not teach or suggest this method. Namely, they do not teach or suggest "exchanging packets with the host game console," nor "establishing a secure communication link with the host game console," as a server MCP does not constitute a host game console. Furthermore, Chatani is not

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cited for teaching such an element, nor does it teach such an element, and therefore does not add anything of substance to the rejection.

Furthermore, Chatani does not teach "deriving at least one cryptographic key from the console-based key and the title-based key," as submitted by the Office. Therefore, claim 33 is additionally allowable for at least the reasons discussed above in regards to claims 2 and 3.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests allowance of claim 33.

Dependent claims 34-38 depend from claim 33 and are allowable by virtue of this dependency. Moreover, these claims recite features that, when taken together with those of claim 33, define methods not taught or suggested by Rothschild, Perlman and Chatani.

Dependent claim 49 recites a "game console as recited in claim 48, wherein the processor is configured to derive the key from data stored in the memory and data associated with the authentic game title." In making out a rejection of claim 49, the Office relies upon the rejection of base claim 48 and Chatani for teaching the additional elements of claim 49.

As shown above, however, Rothschild and Perlman do not disclose independent claim 48, nor does Chatani add anything of substance to the rejection of the base claim. Claim 48, therefore, is allowable by virtue of this dependency. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that Chatani does not teach "deriv[ing] the key from data stored in the memory and data associated with the authentic game title," as discussed above in regards to claims 2 and 3. Therefore, claim 49 is allowable for at least this additional reason.

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Independent claim 52 recites a system, comprising:

first and second game consoles with network connections to facilitate connection to a local area network, the first and second game consoles running a same game title and being configured to generate identical keys by virtue of running the same game title; and

the first game console being configured to discover the second game console by broadcasting messages over the local area network, the messages being secured by the keys.

In making out a rejection of claim 52, the Office states that Rothschild teaches most of the elements of the claim, including first and second game consoles, that Perlman teaches an LAN network and that Chatani teaches "generating identical keys." (Office Action of 7/12/05, page 14).

For the reasons given above with respect to claims 6 and 13, the references do not disclose this system. Namely, the cited reference does not disclose "first and second game consoles," as recited in Applicant's claim 52.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests allowance of claim 33.

Dependent claims 53-54 depend from claim 52 and are allowable by virtue of this dependency. Moreover, these claims recite features that, when taken together with those of claim 52, define systems not taught or suggested by Rothschild, Perlman and Chatani.

Rothschild in view of Perlman in view of Nguyen

Claims 40-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rothschild in view of Perlman in further view of Nguyen. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

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Nguyen describes a gaming machine that may securely communicate with devices over a public network such as the internet. The gaming machine utilizes a combination of symmetric and asymmetric encryption that allows a single gaming machine to securely communicate with a remote server using a public network. (*Nguyen*, abstract).

Independent claim 40 recites a computer-readable medium for a game console comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed, direct the game console to:

encrypt a request to join in playing a game title being hosted by a remote host game console on a local area network;

digitally sign the request; broadcast the request over the local area network;

listen for at least one broadcast reply from the host game console;

upon receipt of the reply, extract at least one session key from the reply for use in facilitating future communication with the host game console;

form an initial packet that contains first data used to derive a cryptographic key;

compute a first hash digest of the initial packet using the session key;

send the initial packet and the first hash digest to the host game console;

listen for a reply packet from the host game console, the reply packet including a second hash digest and second data;

authenticate the reply packet using the session key and the second hash digest; and

In making out a rejection of claim 40, the Office cites Rothschild for many of the claims elements, but states that Rothschild does "not disclose digitally signing the reply." Nevertheless, the Office cites Nguyen as teaching such an element. (Office Action of 7/12/05, page 16). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

For the reasons given above with respect to claims 6 and 13, the references do not teach or suggest the claimed medium. Namely, the cited references do not teach or suggest a computer-readable medium that "direct[s] the game console to encrypt a request to join in playing a game title being hosted by a remote host game console on a local area network," as recited in Applicant's claim 40. In fact, the references do not teach multiple game consoles, as the server MCP in Rothschild is not a game console.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests allowance of claim 40.

Furthermore, the cited references do not teach or suggest this claim for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 25. Namely, the references do not teach "comput[ing] a first hash digest." For at least this additional reason, claim 40 is allowable.

Independent claim 41 recites a computer-readable medium for a game console comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed, direct the game console to:

receive a request from a remote game console on a local area network, the request seeking network play of a game title;

authenticate the request as being generated by an authentic game console running an authentic version of the game title;

decode the request;

determine whether to allow the remote game console to play;

in an event the remote game console is allowed to play, create a reply with containing at least one session key;

encrypt and digitally sign the reply;

send the reply to the remote game console;

receive an initial packet directly from the remote game console, the initial packet containing first data used to derive a cryptographic key;

authenticate the initial packet using the session key;

form a response packet holding second data used to derive a cryptographic key;

send the response packet to the remote game console; and

derive at least one security association key from the first and second data, the security association keys being used to secure communication with the remote game console.

In making out a rejection of claim 41, the Office cites Rothschild for many of the claims elements, but states that Rothschild does "not disclose digitally signing the reply." Nevertheless, the Office cites Nguyen as teaching such an element. (Office Action of 7/12/05, page 17). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

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For the reasons given above with respect to claims 6 and 13, the references do not teach or suggest the claimed medium. Namely, the cited references do not teach or suggest a computer-readable medium that "direct[s] the game console to receive a request from a remote game console," as recited in Applicant's claim 41. In fact, the references do not teach multiple game consoles, as the server MCP in Rothschild is not a game console.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests allowance of claim 40.

Dependent claim 42 depends from claim 41 and is allowable by virtue of this dependency. Moreover, this claim recites features that, when taken together with those of claim 41, define a system not taught or suggested by Rothschild, Perlman and Nguyen.

Rothschild in view of Perlman and Chatani in further view of Murphy

Claim 28 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rothschild in view of Perlman and Chatani in further view of Murphy. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Dependent claim 28 recites a "method as recited in claim 27, wherein the deriving comprises computing a hashing function on a concatenation of the console-based key and the title-based key." In making out a rejection of claim 28, the Office relies upon the earlier rejection of claim 27, discussed above. The Office then further cites Murphy for teaching the additional element of claim 28.

As discussed above, however, Rothschild, Perlman, nor Chatani teach or suggest independent claim 27. Namely, the cited references do not teach or suggest "exchanging packets between the first and second game consoles," nor "establishing a secure communication link between the first and second game

consoles," as a server MCP does not constitute a host game console. Furthermore, Murphy is not cited for teaching such an element, nor does it teach such an element, and therefore does not add anything of substance to the rejection. Therefore, claim 28 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above in regards to claims 6 and 13.

Furthermore, the cited references do not teach "deriving at least one cryptographic key from the console-based key and the title-based key," as recited by base claim 27. Therefore, claim 28 is additionally allowable for at least the reasons discussed above in regards to claims 2 and 3.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests allowance of claim 28.

Rothschild in view of Perlman and Chatani in further view of Nguyen

Claim 29 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rothschild in view of Perlman and Chatani in further view of Nguyen. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Dependent claim 29 recites a "method as recited in claim 27, wherein the deriving comprises computing an encryption key and a signature key; and the encoding of the request comprises encrypting the request using the encryption key to form an encrypted request and digitally signing the encrypted request using the signature key."

In making out a rejection of claim 29, the Office relies upon the earlier rejection of claim 27, discussed above. The Office then further cites Nguyen for teaching the additional element of claim 29.

As discussed above, however, Rothschild, Perlman, nor Chatani teach or suggest independent claim 27. Namely, the cited references do not teach or

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"establishing a secure communication link between the first and second game consoles," as a server MCP does not constitute a host game console. Furthermore, Nguyen is not cited for teaching such an element, nor does it teach such an element, and therefore does not add anything of substance to the rejection. Therefore, claim 29 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above in regards to claims 6 and 13.

suggest "exchanging packets between the first and second game consoles," nor

Furthermore, the cited references do not teach "deriving at least one cryptographic key from the console-based key and the title-based key," as recited by base claim 27. Therefore, claim 29 is additionally allowable for at least the reasons discussed above in regards to claims 2 and 3.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests allowance of claim 29.

Conclusion

Claims 1-54 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt allowance of the subject application. If any issue remains unresolved that would prevent allowance of this case, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney to resolve the issue.

Date: Oct. 11, 2005

Respectfully Submitted,

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